

Claims

1. Connecting element for insertion into the ends of at least two hollow sections of different cross-section, in particular middle nodes for an instrument panel transverse beam in automobile manufacture,

5 characterised in that,

10 a push-fit body (22, 22_a to 22_f) is shape-formed by way of extrusion on a frame (30, 30_a) with side walls (32) extending in the direction x of insertion, whereby the push-fit body is of smaller cross-section than the frame and contains lengths of the frame walls.

15 2. Connecting element according to claim 1, characterised in that the frame (30, 30_a) surrounds the push-fit body (22, 22_a to 22_f).

3. Connecting element according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the push-fit body ((22, 22_a to 22_f) forms a corner (31) of the frame (30, 30_a).

20 4. Connecting element according to one of the claims 1 to 3, characterised in that a frame bracket (40) is formed onto the frame (30, 30_a) on the outside of one side wall (32_f).

5. Connecting element according to claim 4, characterised in that the frame bracket arms (42) on the frame (30, 30_a) are aligned with parallel side walls of the frame.

25 6. Connecting element according to one of the claims 1 to 5, characterised in that a sleeve (38) for a bolt is provided, in particular integrally shape-formed, at two opposite lying corners (31_a and 41) within the frame (30, 30_a) or in the frame bracket (40).

30 7. Connecting element according to one of the claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the push-fit body (22, 22_a, 22_d) projects out of one side of the frame (30, 30_a) in the direction of insertion (x).

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8. Connecting element according to one of the claims 1 to 7, characterised in that the frame (30, 30_a) projects on one side in the direction of insertion beyond a plane (E) defined by an outer edge (46) of the frame bracket (40).
- 5 9. Connecting element according to claim 8, characterised in that on the other side of the frame bracket (40) the push-fit body (22_d) projects beyond a plane (E) defined by its other outer edge (46).
10. Connecting element according to at least one of the above claims, characterised by way of at least one of the features revealed in the drawing and/or description.
11. Connecting element according to at least one of the above claims, characterised by way of a combination of at least two of the features revealed in the drawing and/or description.